Basic Differences between Socialism and Capitalism

For the non-politically minded, all of these "isms" can seem a bit confusing. Keeping in mind that forms of socialism and capitalism may vary across societies, here's a breakdown of their basic differences.  
  
**Capitalism**: Means of production and distribution of goods are owned by individuals and corporations  
  
**Socialism**: Means of production are owned by the government or state  
  
**Capitalism**: Features a class-based society  
  
**Socialism**: Rejects the necessity of a class-based society in favor of a society of equals  
  
**Capitalism**: Fosters a competitive atmosphere in which workers and companies are encouraged to work hard to achieve personal success  
  
**Socialism**: Encourages an atmosphere of cooperation in which no matter how hard a person works, he or she reaps the same benefits as everyone else.  
  
**Capitalism**: Ownership of private property is encouraged  
  
**Socialism**: Ownership of private property is largely forbidden  
  
**Capitalism**: Produces goods based on the law of supply and demand  
  
**Socialism**: Government mandates production and prices.